

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

EURE-00 /105 W

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P R 161550Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0489

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EC, EAGR

SUBJ: EC COMMISSION PROPOSAL TO TAX VEGETABLE FATS
AND OILS.

REF: STATE 170962; BONN 11728; EC BRUSSELS 7017

1. MFA SOURCE (JORDAN) INFORMED EMBOFF THAT FRG HAS
DECIDED TO SPEAK AGAINST EC COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL TO
TAX VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS WHEN THIS PROPOSAL IS
INTRODUCED AT AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL MEETING. DURING
INTER-MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS, MFA AND ECONMIN FAVORED
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STRONG FRG STANCE OPPOSING COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL. FOOD

AND AGRICULTURAL MIN RECOMMENDED THAT FRG REFRAIN FROM TAKING A POSITION AT THIS POINT, ON GROUNDS THAT GERMAN OPPOSITION TO VEGETABLE OIL TAX WOULD ENDANGER CHANCES OF PROGRESS ON MORE DESIRABLE ELEMENTS OF COMMISSION'S REFORM PACKAGE, IN PARTICULAR THOSE INVOLVING CORESPONSIBILITY OF PRODUCERS IN THE DAIRY SECTOR. WHILE OTHER MINISTRIES RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WAS A PROBLEM, THEY VIEWED THE NEED TO KILL THE VEGETABLE OIL PROPOSAL AS MORE IMPORTANT, AND SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING FOOD AND AGRIC MIN TO AGREE TO ACTIVE FRG STANCE OPPOSING COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL.

2. JORDAN WARNED THAT NO MATTER HOW THE DISCUSSION AT THE AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL GOES, THE COMMISSION WILL NOT LET ITS PROPOSAL DIE. JORDAN WAS SURE THAT COMMISSION WOULD CONTINUE ITS PREPARATION OF A DETAILED PROPOSAL AND THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL EVENTUALLY BE TABLED. HE REGRETTED THAT THIS CONTROVERSY WILL THUS DRAG ON INTO THE FALL.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, HIGH AND RELIABLE MINAG SOURCE ADVISED AG ATTACHE THAT MINAG IS UNCONDITIONALLY OPPOSED TO THE COMMISSION'S VEGETABLE OIL TAX PROPOSAL AND THAT FRG WILL, IF NECESSARY, USE A COUNCIL VETO TO STOP THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL.
CASH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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